



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

March 5, 2003

**S. 302
Rancho Corral de Tierra Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Boundary Adjustment Act**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on February 26, 2003*

S. 302 would modify the boundary of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) in California. Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing this legislation would cost the federal government about \$21 million over the next few years and \$0.3 million annually thereafter. Enactment of S. 302 would not affect revenues or direct spending.

The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

S. 302 would add to the GGNRA the 4,262-acre Rancho Corral de Tierra and over 300 acres of property in the Devil's Slide area. CBO estimates that the National Park Service (NPS) would spend \$15 million to purchase the Rancho Corral de Tierra from the Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST), a local nonprofit organization, which acquired the property in 2001 for \$29.7 million. (We expect that the organization would recover the balance of the land's purchase price from private and state sources.) The cost of acquiring land within the Devil's Slide area is less certain because formal property appraisals have not yet been completed and because it is unclear how much of this acreage might be acquired by the state of California for a proposed highway diversion. CBO estimates that private lands added to the NRA boundary that are not acquired by California would be purchased by the NPS at a cost of about \$5 million over the next few years.

CBO estimates that the cost to develop the property acquired under S. 302 would be about \$0.5 million, and that annual costs to administer the new lands would be \$0.3 million. S. 302 also would extend the term of the GGNRA's advisory commission (which expired on December 31, 2002) for an additional 10 years. The extension would have no significant effect on the federal budget.

This estimate is based on information provided by the NPS, POST, and local authorities. For this estimate, we have assumed that all funds would be appropriated as necessary for land acquisition, development, and ongoing expenses.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Deborah Reis. The estimate was approved by Robert A Sunshine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.